"IEA Clean Coal Science and IEA Biomass Combustion Members Meet to Discuss Collaboration"

June 5-9, 2000

(The following are excerpts from a trip report submitted by IEA Clean Coal Science member Philip Goldberg.)

Trip Purpose:

To attend the First World Conference on Biomass for Energy and Industry, and the IEA Biomass Combustion Task 19 Executive Committee Meeting to address collaboration with IEA Clean Coal Science (formerly Coal Combustion Science) in the area of co-firing.

Abstract of Trip:

Major highlights: Presentations made at the conference reviewed the status of various countries' efforts involving power technologies such as PCC, CFBC, IGCC, etc., that were either in progress or planned. The intent of these projects was to demonstrate the production of power and heat from biomass or coal and biomass blends. During the IEA Biomass Combustion Task 19 meeting, specific areas of cooperation between Task 19 and Clean Coal Science were identified.

Benefits: Information collected allowed a better understanding of world-wide trends in biomass-related power and fuels technologies. Identification of mutual interests and complimentary capabilities offers the potential to extend resources of CCS member nations by reducing duplication and seeking meaningful international collaborations. Plans to share experiences among IEA participants active in co-firing will be made with the intent of reducing project costs and improving the likelihood of research success.

People contacted at Sevilla:

Gerard Smakman	NOVEM, Netherlands	(EU Thermie-B Project Coordinator)
Sjaak vanLoo	TNO, Netherlands	(IEA Task Leader, Biomass Combustion)
Peter Coombes	Delta Electricity, Australia	(Project Development – Co-firing)
Juha Kostamo	Fortum, Finland	(Project Development - CHP)
Robert Davidson	IEA Coal Research, UK	(Head Coal Science and Info. Services)

Results of meeting:

During the conference, technical information pertinent to power systems was gathered and key participants were identified. The process of information exchange between the IEA Biomass Combustion and IEA Clean Coal Science was begun. General information between the groups is being exchanged and a joint meeting is being considered.

1. The First World Conference on Biomass for Energy and Industry was held on June 5-9, 2000 during which information was gathered on international power systems development activities and identified a number follow-up contacts. A significant number of co-firing projects had been completed and a number of more ambitious projects are underway. The body of practical EU experience in areas such as biomass storage and feeding, and atmospheric gasification could prove beneficial in managing co-firing projects. Allied issues such as commingled ash utilization and SCR catalyst poisoning by alkali also are being addressed by several countries and coordination may be warranted.

   On June 9, 2000, Mr. Goldberg attended portions of the Executive Committee Meeting of IEA Task 19, Biomass Combustion. Representative from Norway, Belgium, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Netherlands, New Zealand, Australia and the US attended. Coal/biomass co-firing is a topical area that intersects fossil interests and technologies,. Consequently, discussions centered on the potential to insure better coordination between pertinent activities in Clean Coal Science and Biomass Combustion. After briefly discussing areas of mutual interests (e.g., pollutant formation, ash utilization, feed systems, ash behavior, gas cleaning, etc.), participants agreed to distribute information on membership of the respective committees and begin to identify potential collaborative projects.

   Conference proceedings will not be available until September. A complete listing of conference presentations is included as Attachment 1. An overview of the Co-firing Workshop that Mr. Goldberg co-chaired, containing introductory material from the formal co-firing workshop proceedings, is included as Attachment 2. A listing of biomass co-firing projects presented at the IEA Task 19 meeting is furnished as Attachment 3.